

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 5-6, 23, 26, 33, 34, and 35 are amended, claim 17 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter therein, and claim 37 is newly added. Support for the amendment to claims 1, 3, 5-6, 23, 26, 33, 34, and 35 may be found, for example, in FIG. 1 and in the corresponding description in the specification of the present application. Support for newly added claim 37 may be found, for example, in FIG. 16. No new matter has been added. After entry of this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 5-6, 8-16, 23-35 and 37 will remain pending in the patent application. Reconsideration and allowance of the present patent application based on the foregoing amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8-17 and 23-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Aubrey (U.S. Pat. No. 4,798,942) in view of Cubic Transportation System (hereinafter "Cubic"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 17 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, thus rendering moot the rejection of claim 17.

Claim 1 recites an automatic ticket checking apparatus comprising, *inter alia*, a main body which defines a first passage to one side thereof and a second passage to another side thereof; a first conveying mechanism for conveying the first magnetic ticket in a first direction from the first receiving means to about the center of the main body along the first passage, and a second conveying mechanism arranged at an opposite side of the first conveying mechanism in the main body for conveying the second magnetic ticket in a second direction opposite the first direction from the second receiving means to about the center of the main body along the second passage.

As conceded on page 3, lines 2-5, of the Office Action, Aubrey fails to teach or suggest a wireless and judging means for processing wireless tickets and first and second conveying means. The Examiner then relied on Cubic as allegedly teaching these features. Applicants disagree and respectfully submit that Cubic does not disclose, teach or suggest a first and second conveying means, much less a first conveying means connecting a first receiving means to a first eject means and a second conveying means connecting a second receiving means to a second eject means in a main body as recited in claim 1. Instead, Cubic discloses an SMC fare collection system, which processes both magnetic tickets and contactless smart cards. Cubic clearly fails to teach or suggest ticket checking operations that

are performed in both directions/sides of a single body. Therefore, any reasonable combination of Aubrey and Cubic cannot, in any way, result in the invention of claim 1.

The Examiner asserted on page 4, lines 12-15, that having both conveying means arranged in series is an obvious extension of Aubrey. Applicants disagree and note that the invention of claim 1 cannot be rendered obvious in view of the teaching of Aubrey because Aubrey teaches away from the present invention.

Aubrey discloses a fare collection ticket transport mechanism. The mechanism transports tickets along an open longitudinal slot with a portion of the ticket projecting sideways out of the slot so that a patron depositing the ticket in the mechanism can see it while it is being transported and can grasp the projecting portion to release it if it becomes jammed. (See FIG. 1) In Aubrey, an entry opening 46, acting as a receiving means, is provided at one end wall of the housing 12 and an exit opening 48, acting as an eject means, is provided near the other end of the housing 12. *Id.* Aubrey specifically discloses that the transport mechanism 10 may be associated with an entry or the exit gate of the system, or be provided at the entrance to a transit vehicle such as a bus. (See col. 6, lines 32-37 and col. 1, lines 25-32). Therefore, by virtue of specifically disclosing that the transport mechanism 10 is positioned either at an entry or an exit gate of a system, Aubrey clearly teaches away from an apparatus capable of checking/controlling traffic in a first direction and in a second direction, opposite the first direction, at the same time, i.e., at an entry and at an exit of a system.

As a result, because none of the cited references, taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest all of the features recited by claim 1 and because Aubrey clearly teaches away from the invention of claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has not set forth a *prima facie* case that would render claim 1 obvious. Therefore, claim 1 is allowable. Claims 3, 5-6, and 8-16 depend from claim 1 and are patentable over Aubrey, Cube or a combination thereof by virtue of their dependency from claim 1 and for the additional features recited therein.

Claim 23 recites an automatic ticket checking apparatus comprising, *inter alia*, a main body which defines a first passage to one side thereof and a second passage to another side thereof; a first receiving means provided to the main body for receiving using data from a first wireless ticket which is carried by a first user who is passing the first passage in a first direction and recording the using data; and a second receiving means provided to the main body for receiving using data from a second wireless ticket which is carried by a second user

passing the second passage in a second direction opposite the first direction and recording the using data. As mentioned previously in the discussion related to claim 1, neither Aubrey nor Cubic, alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest these features. Furthermore, for the same reasons provided above, Applicants respectfully submit that Aubrey teaches away from the invention recited in claim 23. Therefore, claim 23 is allowable. Claims 24-25 are patentable over Aubrey, Cubic or a combination thereof, by virtue of their dependency from claim 23 and for the additional features recited therein.

Claim 26 recites an automatic ticket checking apparatus comprising, *inter alia*, a main body which defines a first passage to one side thereof and a second passage to another side thereof; a first wireless communication means provided at one end of the main body into which a first user enters the passage in a first direction for wireless communicating with a first wireless ticket carried by the first user; and a second wireless communication means provided at the other end of the main body into which a second user enters the second passage in a second direction opposite the first direction for wireless communicating with a second wireless ticket carried by the second user. For the same reasons provided in connection to claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that neither Aubrey nor Cubic, alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest these features. It is also respectfully submitted that Aubrey teaches away from these features. Therefore, claim 26 is allowable. Claims 27-32 depend from claim 26 and are patentable over Aubrey, Cubic or a combination thereof at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 26 and for the additional features recited therein.

Claim 33 recites an automatic ticket checking apparatus comprising, *inter alia*, a main body which defines a first passage to one side thereof and a second passage to another side thereof; a first wireless communicating means provided to the main body for wireless communicating with a first wireless ticket carried by a first user who is passing the first passage in a first direction; and a second wireless communicating means provided to the main body for wireless communicating with a second wireless ticket carried by a second user who is passing the second passage in a second direction opposite the first direction. As mentioned previously in the discussion related to claim 1, neither Aubrey nor Cubic, alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest these features. Furthermore, for the same reasons provided above, Applicants respectfully submit that Aubrey teaches away from the invention recited in claim 33. Therefore, claim 33 is allowable.

Claim 34 recites an automatic ticket checking apparatus comprising, *inter alia*, a main body which defines a first passage to one side thereof and a second passage to another side thereof; a first wireless communication means provided at one side of the main body likewise the first insert port for wireless communicating with a wireless ticket carried by a user passing the first passage in the first direction; a second wireless communication means provided at the other side of the main body for wireless communicating with a wireless ticket carried by a user who is passing the second passage in the second direction. As mentioned previously in the discussion related to claim 1, neither Aubrey nor Cubic, alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest these features. Furthermore, for the same reasons provided above, Applicants respectfully submit that Aubrey teaches away from the invention recited in claim 34. Therefore, claim 34 is allowable.

Claim 35 recites a ticket checking method of an automatic ticket checking apparatus including a main body defining a first passage to one side thereof and a second passage to another side thereof with a first insert port and first wireless communicating means provided at one side of the main body and a second insert port and a second communicating means at the other side of the main body, comprising, *inter alia*, prohibiting the insert of a magnetic ticket into the second insert port by a user who is passing the second passage and prohibiting the wireless communication with a wireless ticket carried by a user who is passing the second passage by the second wireless communicating means when a magnetic ticket is inserted into the first insert port by a user who is passing along the first or a wireless ticket carried by a user who is passing the first passage by the first wireless communication means. For the same reasons provided in connection with claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that neither Aubrey nor Cubic, alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest these features. It is also respectfully submitted that Aubrey teaches away from these features. Therefore, claim 35 is allowable.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8-16 and 23-35 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Aubrey in view of Cubic are respectfully requested.


Claim 37 is newly added and defines over the cited references for at least the same reasons provided above in relation to claim 1. Therefore, claim 37 is in condition for allowance.

Applicants have addressed the Examiner's rejection and respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. A notice to the effect is earnestly solicited.

If any point remains in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

By: 

GLENN T. BARRETT
Reg. No. 38705
Tel. No. 703.905.2011
Fax No. 703.905.2500

CHRISTOPHE LAIR
Reg. No. 54248
Tel. No. 703.905.2097
Fax No. 703.905.2500

GTB/CFL
P.O. Box 10500
McLean, VA 22102
(703) 905-2000